

**What is claimed is:**

1. A method for discovering remote agents, comprising:

providing at least one web service; and

5        discovering at least one remote agent based on at least one web service.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one remote agent comprises one or more managed objects, one or more clustered managed objects, one or more managed object groups, and one or more clustered managed object groups.

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3. The method of claim 2, wherein one or more managed objects includes one or more managed object paths.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one web service is an agent metadata  
15        service running on one or more remote agents.

5. The method of claim 4, wherein one or more managed object paths are obtained from the agent metadata service.

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6. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one web service is an agent managed object query service running on one or more remote agents.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein the agent managed object query service provides

information regarding managed objects found on one or more remote agents.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one web service and discovery can be launched from a graphical user interface.

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9. A system for discovering remote agents, comprising:

at least one management console; and

at least one remote agent, wherein the at least one management console discovers at least one remote agent based on at least one web service.

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10. The system of claim 9, wherein at least one remote agent comprises one or more managed objects, one or more clustered managed objects, one or more managed object groups, and one or more clustered managed object groups.

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11. The system of claim 10, wherein one or more managed objects includes one or more managed object paths.

12. The system of claim 9, wherein at least one web service is an agent metadata service running on one or more remote agents.

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13. The system of claim 12, wherein one or more managed object paths are obtained from the agent metadata service.

14. The system of claim 9, wherein at least one web service is an agent managed object query service running on one or more remote agents.

15. The system of claim 14, wherein the agent managed object query service  
5 provides information regarding managed objects found on one or more remote agents.

16. The system of claim 9, wherein at least one web service and discovery can be launched from a graphical user interface.

10 17. A computer readable storage medium including computer executable code for discovering remote agents, comprising:

code for providing at least one web service; and

code for discovering at least one remote agent based on at least one web service.

15 18. The computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein at least one remote agent comprises one or more managed objects, one or more clustered managed objects, one or more managed object groups, and one or more clustered managed object groups.

19. The computer readable storage medium of claim 18, wherein one or more  
20 managed objects includes one or more managed object paths.

20. The computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein at least one web service is an agent metadata service running on one or more remote agents.

21. The computer readable storage medium of claim 20, wherein one or more managed object paths are obtained from the agent metadata service.

5           22. The computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein at least one web service is an agent managed object query service running on one or more remote agents.

23. The computer readable storage medium of claim 22, wherein the agent managed object query service provides information regarding managed objects found on one or more  
10 remote agents.

24. The computer readable storage medium of claim 17, wherein at least one web service and discovery can be launched from a graphical user interface.